

FAIRY TAIL

38

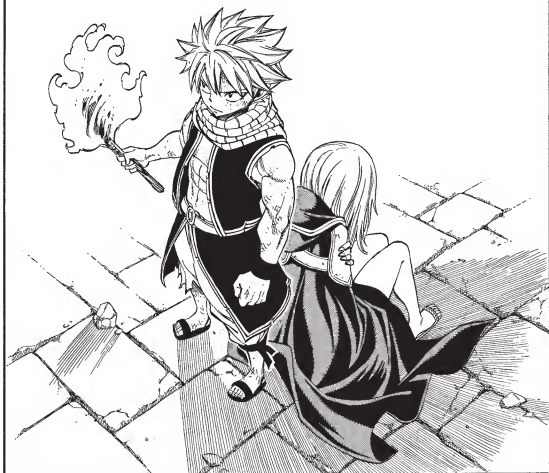


Hiro Mashima

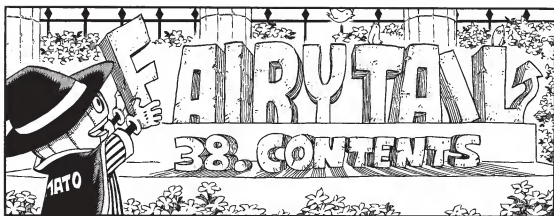
FAIRY TAIL

フェアリーテイル

38



HIRO MASHIMA



Chapter 318: Gajeel vs. Rogue ⇄ ⇄ ⇄ 3

Chapter 319: White Knight ⇄ ⇄ ⇄ 29

Chapter 320: Attacking Lightning ⇄ ⇄ ⇄ 49

Chapter 321: Laxus vs. Jura ⇄ ⇄ ⇄ 69

Chapter 322: Gloria ⇄ ⇄ ⇄ 89

Chapter 323: The Shadow: There and Back Again ⇄ ⇄ ⇄ 125

Chapter 324: One Who Would Close the Door ⇄ ⇄ ⇄ 145

Chapter 325: Solidarity!!!! ⇄ ⇄ ⇄ 165

FAIRY TAIL



Chapter 318: Gajeel vs. Rogue



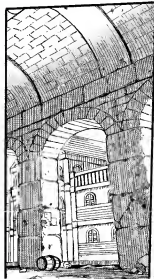
 FAIRY TAIL







And break
through
'em!!!!



I'm so
uneasy...
What can I
do...?!

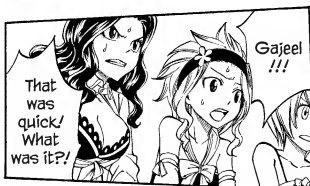


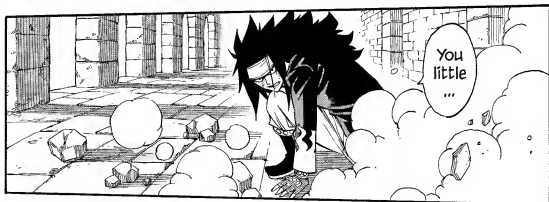
Yukino
...



Mira-
san...







A black and white manga panel showing Naruto Uzumaki falling through the air. He is wearing his signature orange jumpsuit and a long, flowing grey scarf. His eyes are closed, and he has a serene expression. Large, stylized flames surround him, particularly concentrated around his hands and the bottom of the frame. In the bottom center, there is a large, stylized sound effect that reads "RUMMMMMBLE".

**I am
Shadow**

...

**The
shadow
that rules
over fate!**

RUMMMMMBLE





*Iron Dragon Sword





EIRYŪ NO
RENJAKU-
SEN*
!!!!

GWAAH!

BAM

BAM

BAM

KABAM

*Shadow Dragon's Waxwing Flash!



Who's
that?

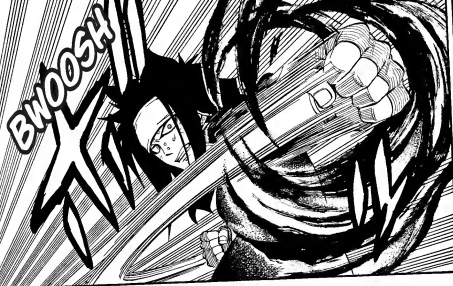


Gajeel
!!



*Shadow Dragon's Slicing Attack





It seems
something has
possessed
him.

What is
that?



A magic
that I do
not know
about?!

Something...
very, very
evil...



You
creep
...



As I
thought.
You do
not hold
a candle
to Natsu
Dragneel.



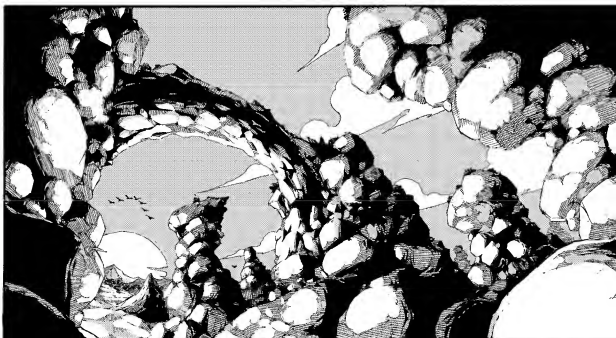
WOBBLE
30...

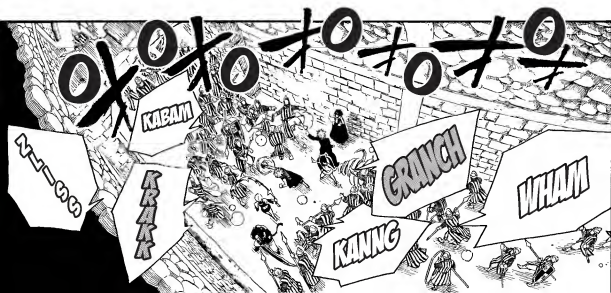
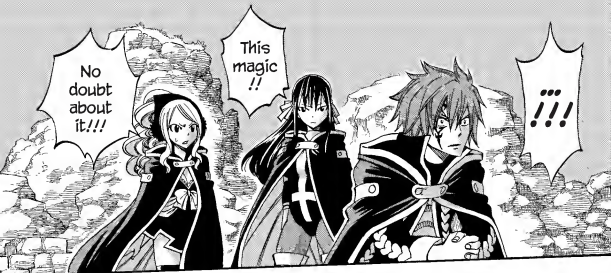
Urgh
...

Urgh
...

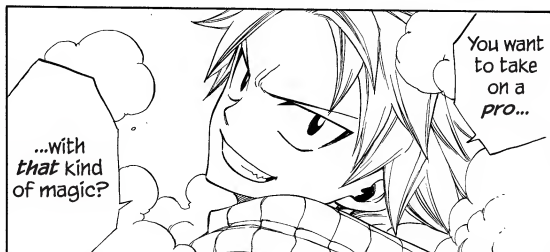


However,
even Natsu
Dragneel is
not a match
for me as I
am now.

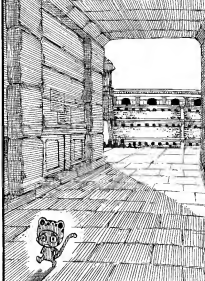


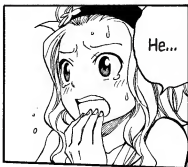
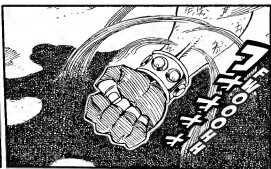














Out of
Rogue
?



I don't know
who you are,
but you'd
better get
outta his
body.



He was *my*
apprentice,
and his
name is
Lios!

Besides,
his name
ain't
Rogue!

Is
this...?

You were
just
scared
of me!

There was
nothin' to look
up to in me
back then.
I know that
better than
anyone!

And you
didn't
look up
to me!





... an
Iron-
Shadow
Dragon
?!?!?

...that
fear once
again!

And I'm
gonna
make you
remember...

RUM

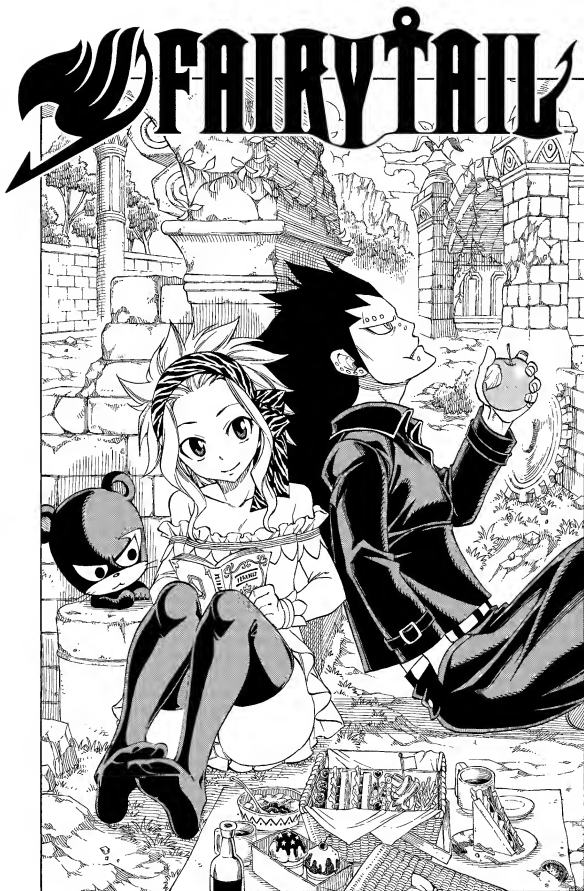
JAN

JAN

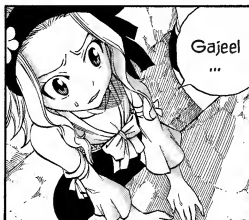
BLEE



 **FAIRYTAIL**



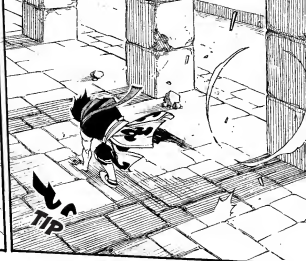
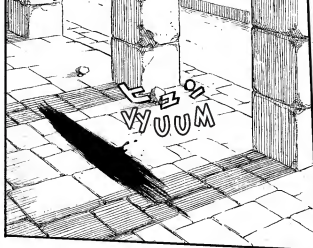
Chapter 319: White Knight





*Iron-Shadow Dragon!





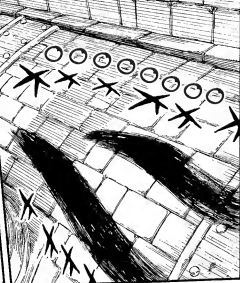


He's pulling
me out of the
shadows...



What?!

GRIMP



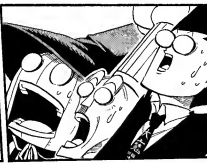
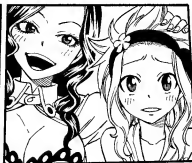
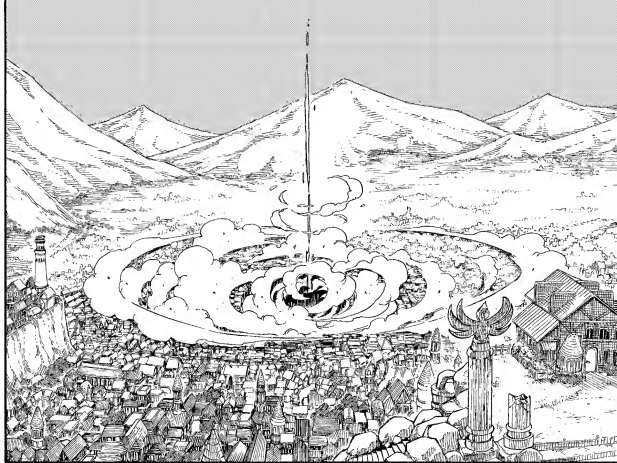


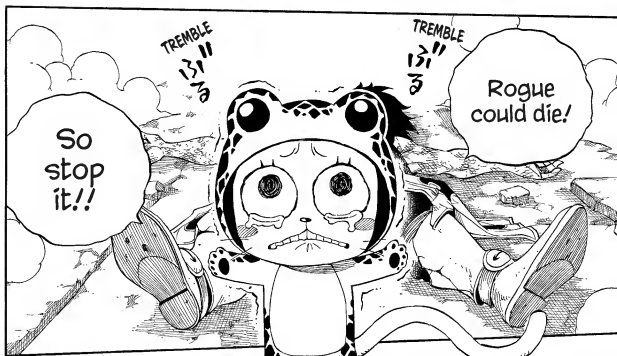


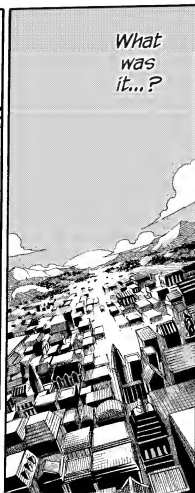
"Iron Shadow Dragon's Roar"

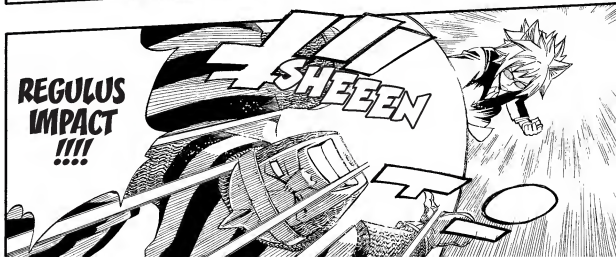
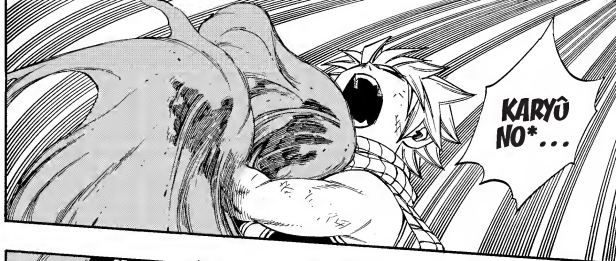


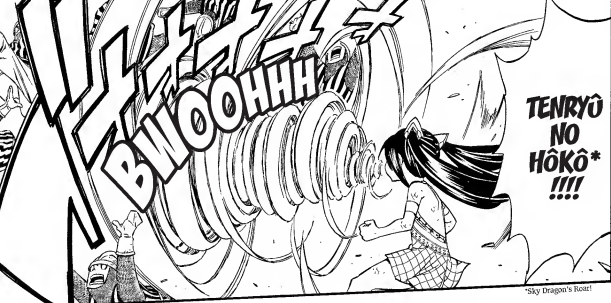






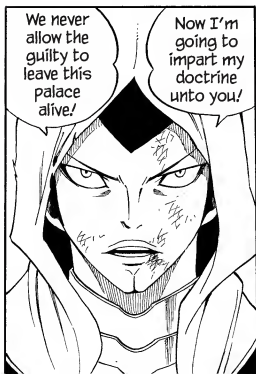
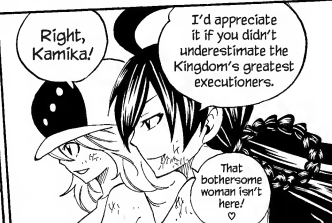


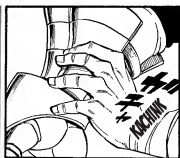
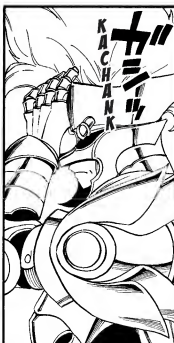
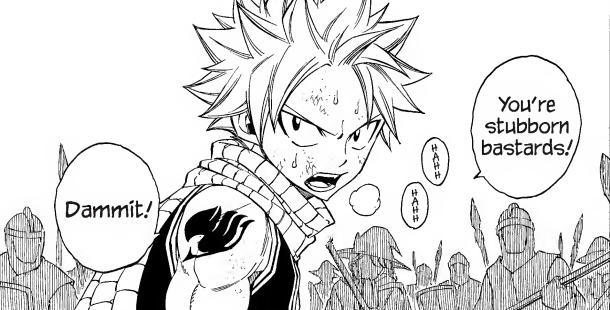


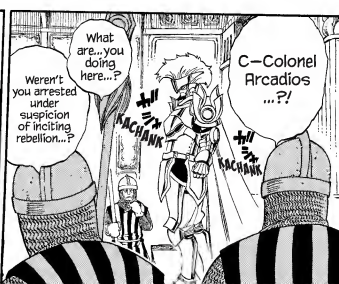
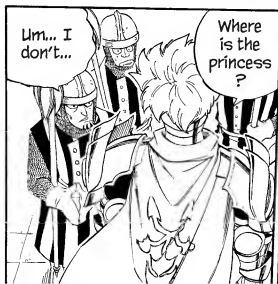


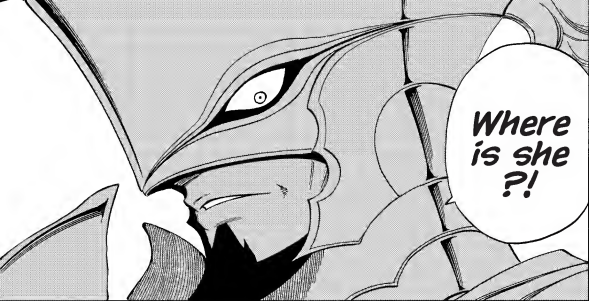
*Sky Dragon's Roar!

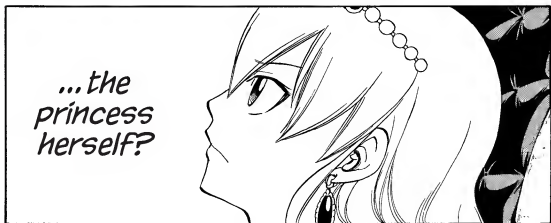












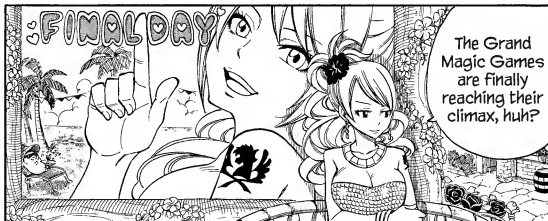
FAIRY TAIL

フェアリーテイル

Grand Magic Games Final Day Interim Results

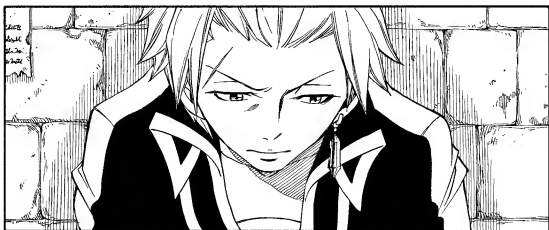
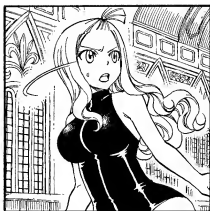


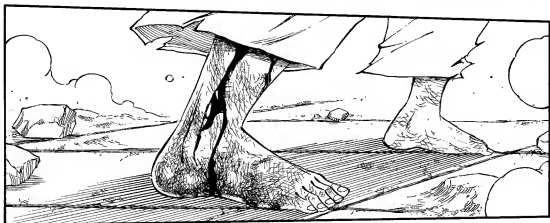
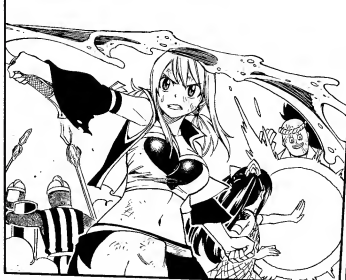
		Remaining Members	
		Leader	Normal
1. Saber Tooth	55p		
		x1	x2
2. Fairy Tail	51p		
		x1	x4
3. Lamia Scale	49p		
		x1	x2

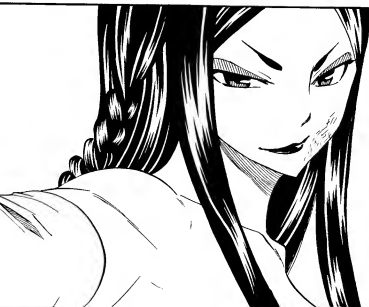


Chapter 320: Attacking Lightning







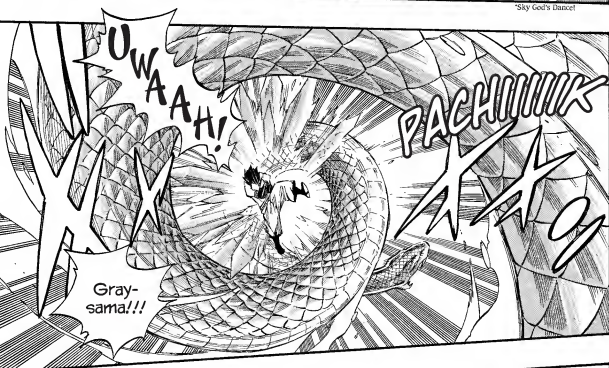


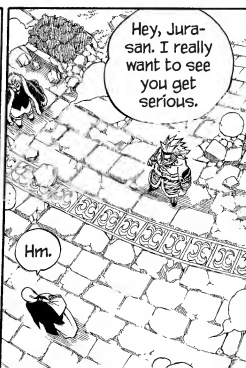
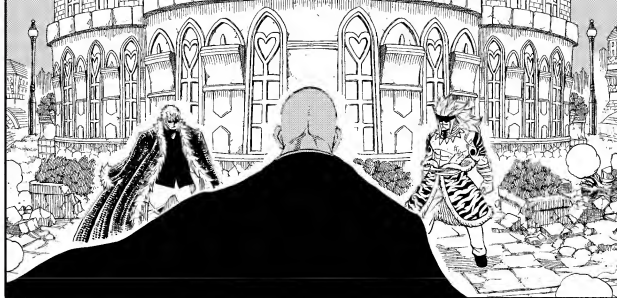
Consider this
the public
execution of
Titania the
Fairy Queen.





*Sky God's Dance!





Think
you can
hold this
back?

What
do you
think,
wizard
saint?!

KRAKEL
10
✱
KRAKEL
10
✱
KRAKEL
10
✱

Is he
setting
up a trap
for the
old guy?

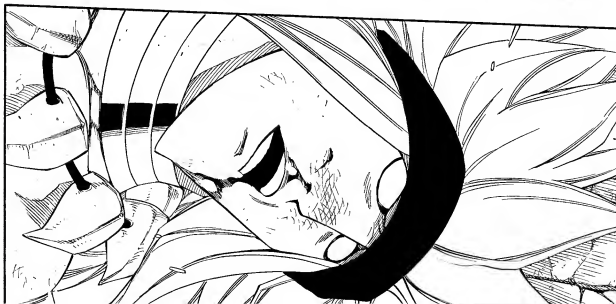
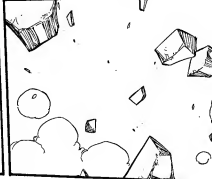
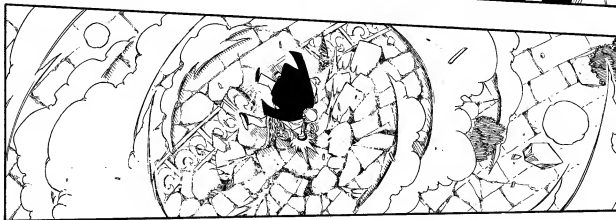
As
you
wish.

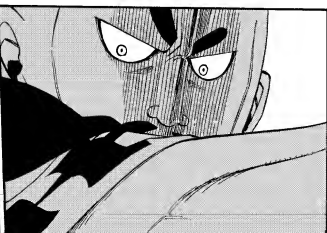
*Thunder God's Charged Particle Cannon

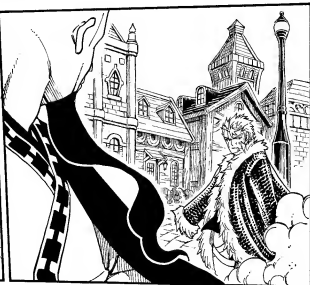
**RAI-
JIN NO
KADEN-
RYŪSHI-
HÔ*
!!!!**

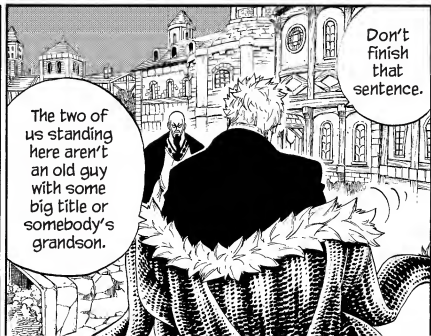
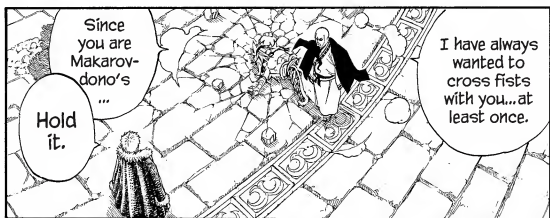
GYAAHHNN













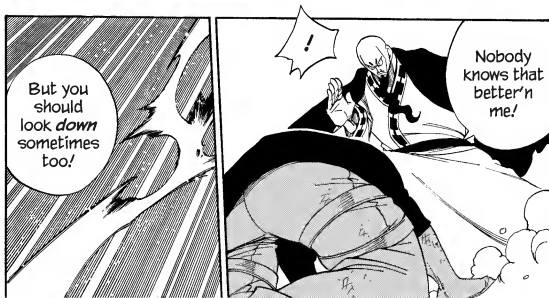
**Just two
guys facin'
off.**



**I like
that
look.**









There might
be someone
at your
feet!!!

KRUNNCH!

FAIRY TAIL

フェアリーテイル

Grand Magic Games Final Day Interim Results

Remaining Members

Leader Normal

1. Saber Tooth 55p



2. Fairy Tail 51p



3. Lamia Scale 50p

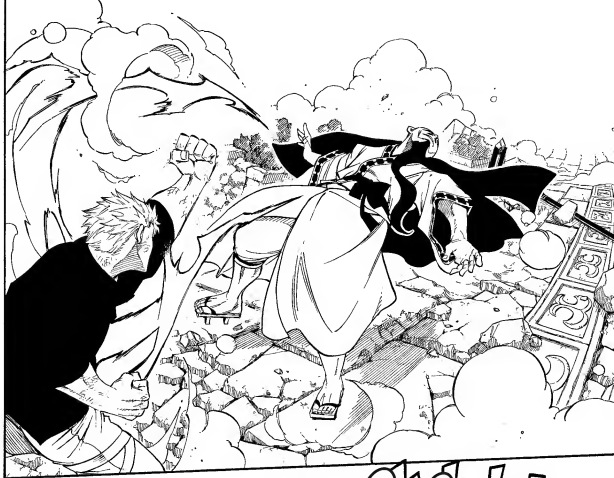


I get the feeling something weird is attached to me...

Just my imagination, I guess.

もぞもぞ
ぞぞぞぞ

Chapter 321: Laxus vs. Jura

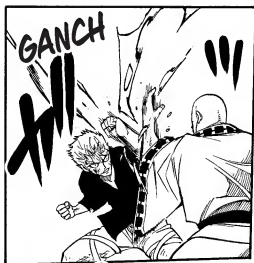




*Lightning Dragon's Sky-Piercing Halberd





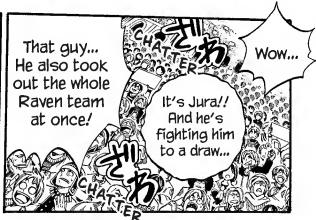


...is the face you're making.

"I didn't think he could be this strong."

Lexus ...

Mm.



That guy... He also took out the whole Raven team at once!

Wow...

It's Jura!! And he's fighting him to a draw...



O
H
H
H
H
H
H
H
H
H
!!!!



Everyone matures.

Especially the young ones who have to live in the coming age.



H
A
H
H
H
A
H
H
H

H
A
H
H
H

H
A
H
H
H



I am...

...
aston-
ished.



You're a monster, just like they all say...

I have not had an impassioned fight these past several years.

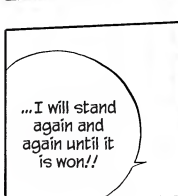
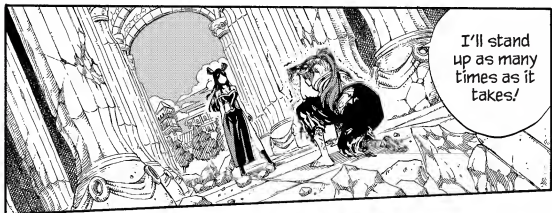
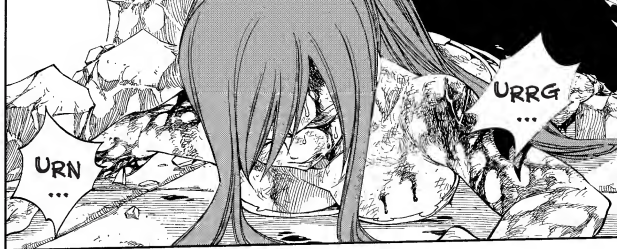


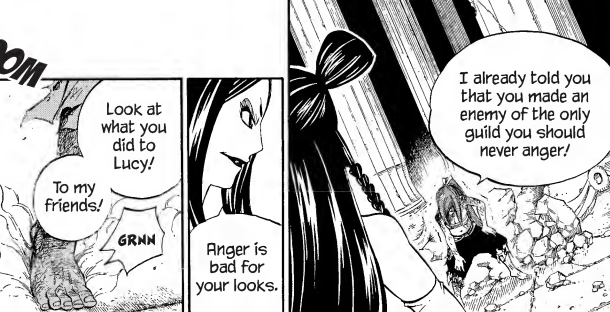
Natsu... What was it he always says at a time like this?

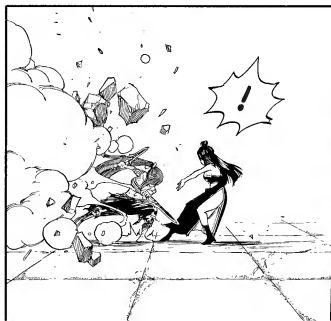


I'm all fired up!

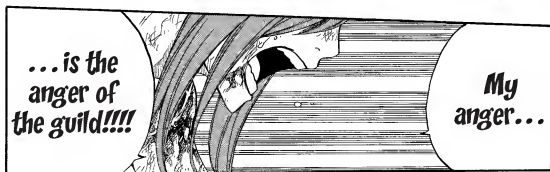














Forward,
young
ones!

Like a wind
through the
wilds.



Her
second
origin
?!!

She's
been
hiding it
all this
time?!!!

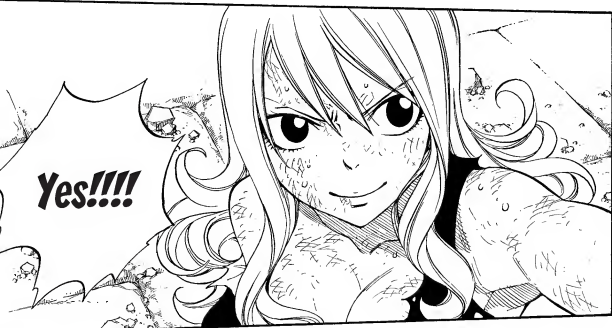


**NAKAGAMI
ARMOR
!!!!**





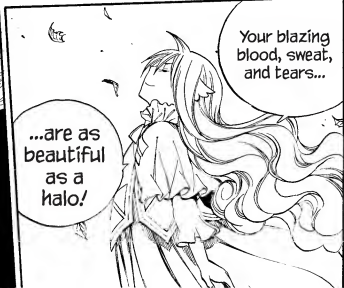
We'll hit
them with
all the
magic we
have!!!!



Yes!!!!



DRAGON
SLAYER
ULTIMATE
ATTACK
.....!!!!



...are as
beautiful
as a
halo!

Your blazing
blood, sweat,
and tears...

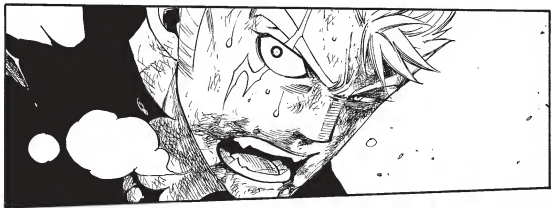


Wherever
you go,
you blaze a
new path!

**NARUMI-
KAZUCHI***
!!!!

Be not
afraid...

...young
ones!



You
got
me.



AN UPSET!!
AN UPSET!!
HE WINS IN
AN UPSET!!!!



1. Fairy Tail 56p

2. Saber Tooth 55p

3. Lamia Scale 50p

HE HIT THE WIZARD SAINT WITH A TERRIFIC ATTACK!!!!

1. Fairy Tail

56p

2. Saber Tooth

55p

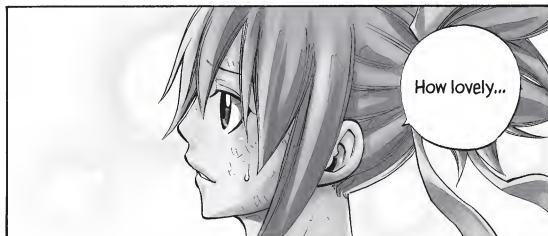
3. *Lamia* Scale

50p

LAXUS
IS THE
WINNER
!!!!

HE
HIT THE
WIZARD
SAINT WITH
A TERRIFIC
ATTACK!!!!









 FAIRY TAIL

Goo O O O O Oo!!



Ya a a a a h h h h!!



Sherria!!
Don't
just stand
there!!



This is
your fault,
Sherriaaaa
!!!

I'm
sorryyyyyy
!!!

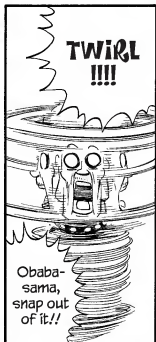
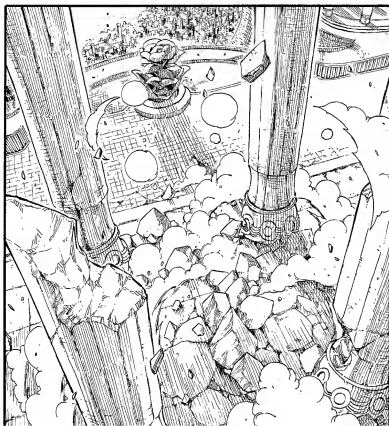
**ICE
GEYSER
!!!!**

Kyaaa
!!

Nooo
!!!

**WATER
NEBULA
!!!!**

**WHAM
WHAM**





This will
be the
end!



Ro hwaset!!
로화셋!!
(Trash!)

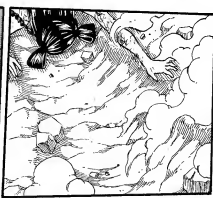
Ro hwasetya!!
로화셋야!!
(You're only trash!)





NAKAGAMI:
ASTERISM
!!!!!!

N A
ZWAAT



Also just moments ago Gray and Juvia eliminated Lyon and Sherria to give them two more points!!!!

1. Fairy Tail 63p
2. Saber Tooth 55
Lamia Scale 50

IT'S ERZA!!!!

SHE JUST TOOK DOWN THE SABER TOOTH LEADER AND EARNED FIVE POINTS!!!!

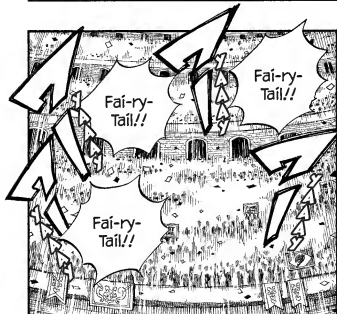
FAIRY TAIL IS STRONG!!!!
ALMOST TOO STRONG!!!!

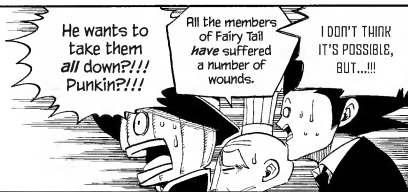
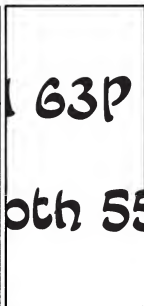
CAN THEY WIN THIS WITHOUT LOSING A SINGLE MEMBER?!

Hm... It may be fair to say that Fairy Tail is very close to a victory.

YAJIMA-SAN, CAN WE SAY THIS IS OVER...?

ONLY ONE OPPONENT IS LEFT: STING FROM SABER TOOTH!!!!











**That's
exactly why
I'll crush
you all at
once!!!!**

**I've been
waiting
for this
moment!!!!**

**I'm going
to show
Lecter just
how strong
I am!!!!**

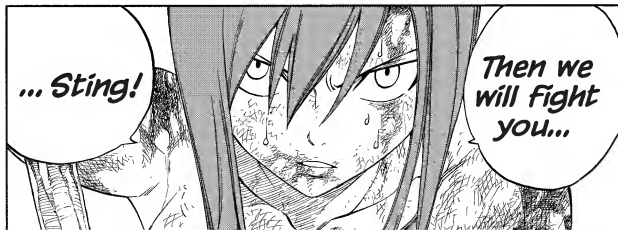


**Very
well!**

**If you are
prepared
for the
outcome...**

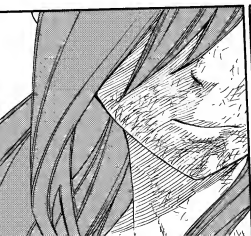


**I ain't got
a clue what
you're saying,
but you're
serious?**



... Sting!

**Then we
will fight
you...**







And
I've
come
this far,
right?!!



They're so
beaten up, the
slightest push
would take
them down...



Wait... they're
all on their last
legs...



...I
can see
Lecter
again...

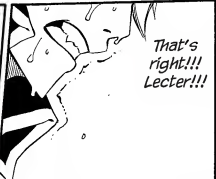
If I take
them all
on at once
and beat
em...



I've
gotten so
strong!!!



I gotta
move
forward
...!!!



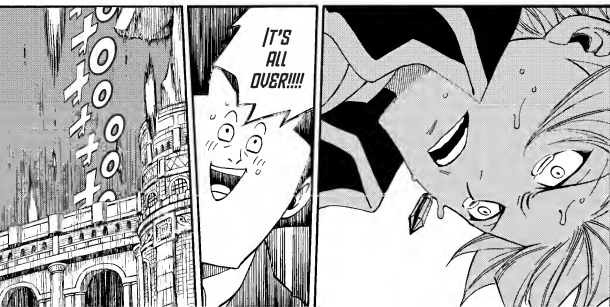
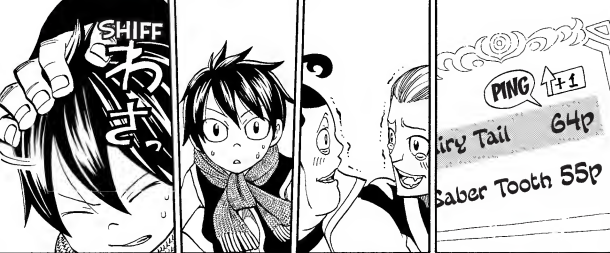
That's
right!!!
Lecter!!!

...have
made me
stronger...

My
feelings
for
Lecter...





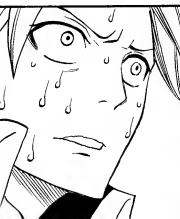
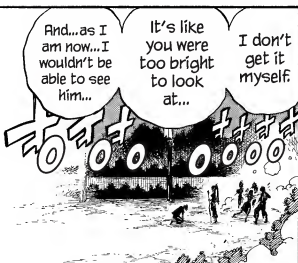


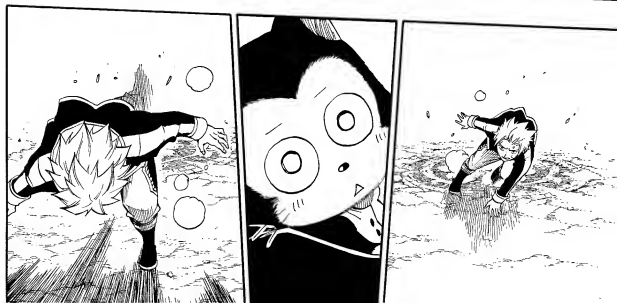
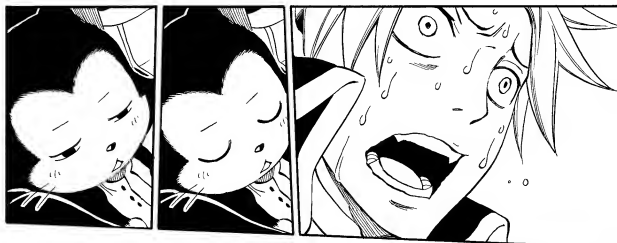
...IS
FAIRY
TAIL!!!!

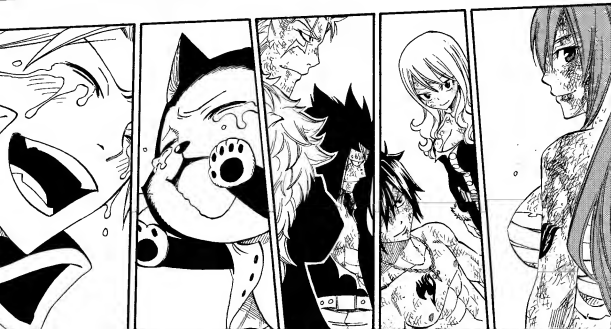
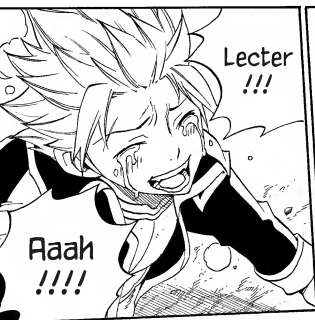
THE
VICTOR
IN THE
GRAND
MAGIC
GAMES...

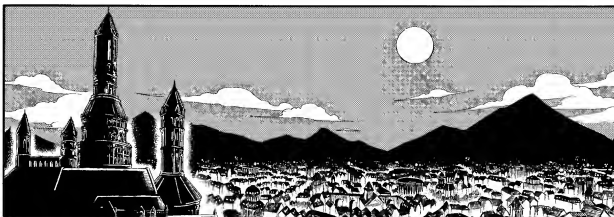


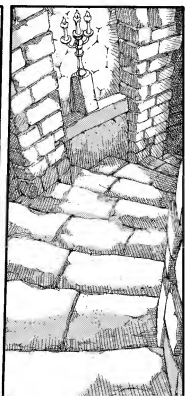
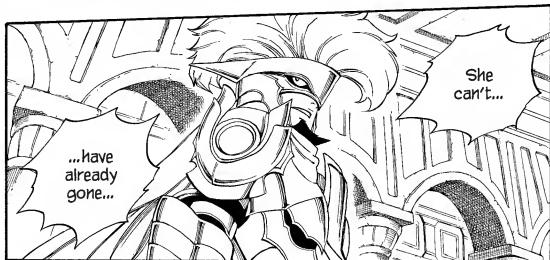


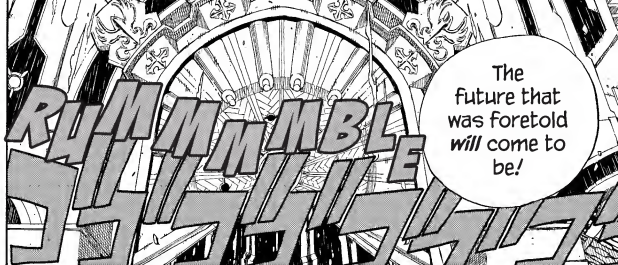












The
future that
was foretold
will come to
be!



And soon a
battle will begin
that could wipe
out humanity.

We must
bring Eclipse
Two...
the Eclipse
Cannon up to
the surface.

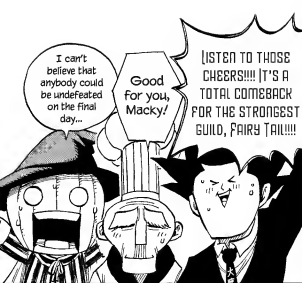
FAIRY TAIL

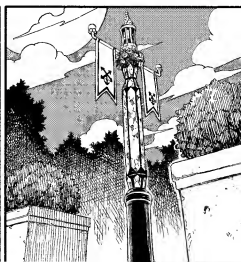
フェアリーテイル

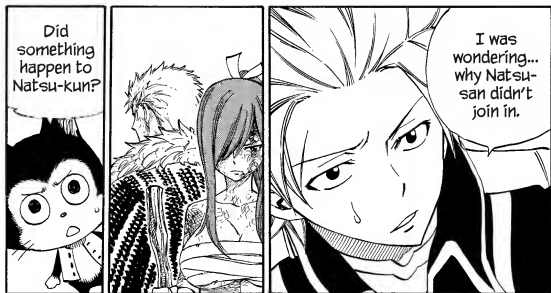
Chapter 323: The Shadow: There and Back Again





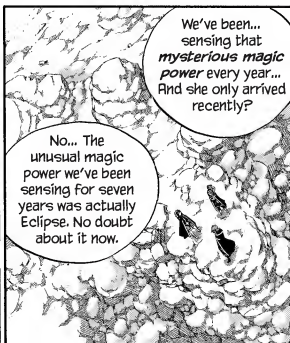
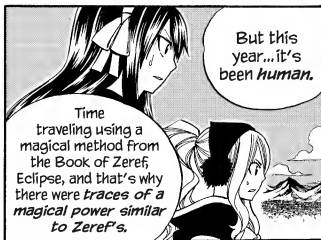


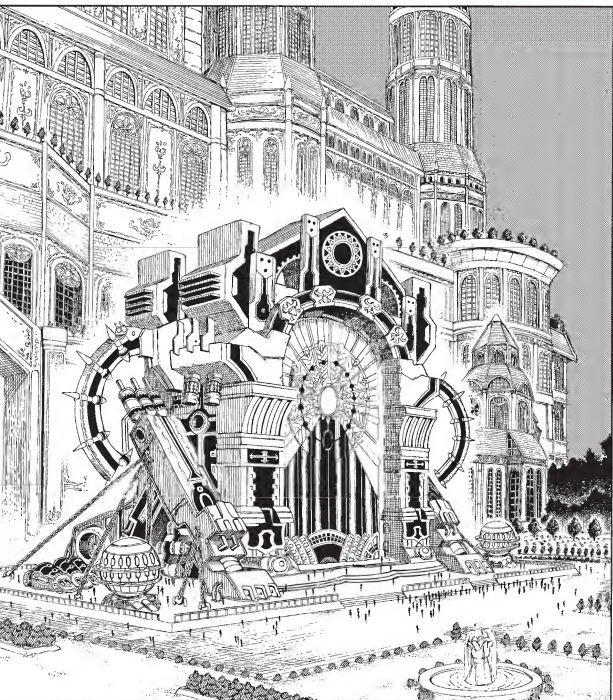








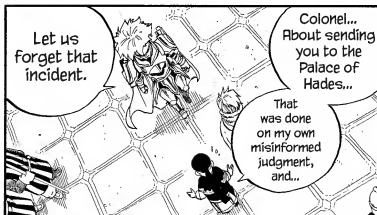






Colonel
Arcadiós!

Your
Highness
!!



Let us
forget that
incident.

Colonel...
About sending
you to the
Palace of
Hades...

That
was done
on my own
misinformed
judgment,
and...



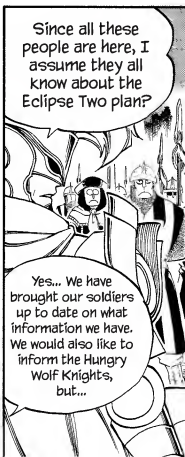
You're
all right!

Urk!



So now, we will
proceed with
the Eclipse Two
Plan.

What the
person from
the future said
is true.



Since all these
people are here, I
assume they all
know about the
Eclipse Two plan?

Yes... We have
brought our soldiers
up to date on what
information we have.
We would also like to
inform the Hungry
Wolf Knights,
but...

No, we are
redirecting it
to deal with
the threat at
hand.

Then we are
abandoning the
Eclipse One plan
to eliminate
Zeref?

What
are you
doing
?!!

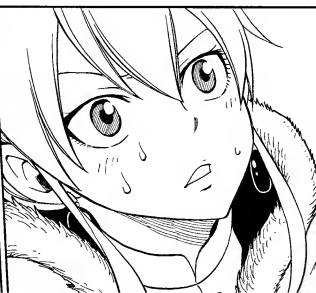
SHING

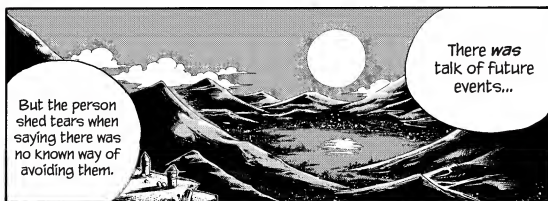
If you speak
the truth, I will
forfeit my life.

KLANG

It goes against
the code of
chivalry to
doubt the
words of my
liege.

GRIMP







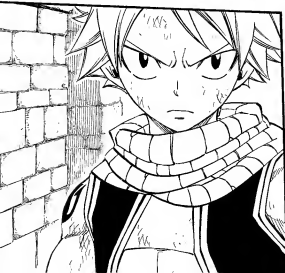
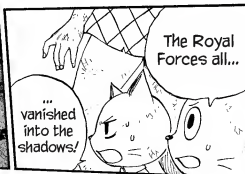
**... was
a man!!**

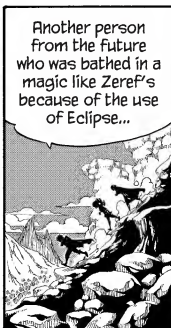
**The one who
warned me of
the coming
future...**



**There is
someone
else!!!**

**The one who
I saw on the
evening of the
3rd was not
Lucy!!!**









**I have come
back from a
time that is
yet to be.**

**I am
Rogue.**

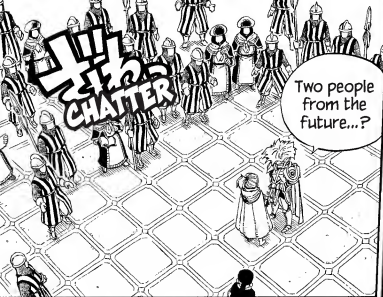
FAIRY TAIL

フェアリーテイル

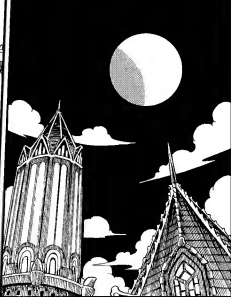
Chapter 324: One Who Would Close the Door







Two people
from the
future...?



Even if there
were three or
four, it wouldn't
surprise me.

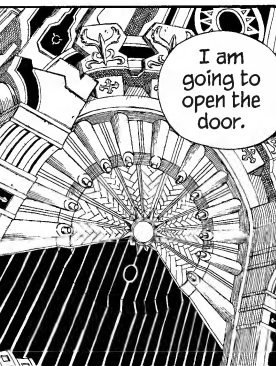
Two with the
same mission.
Both came
back to rescue
the nation.

Huh?

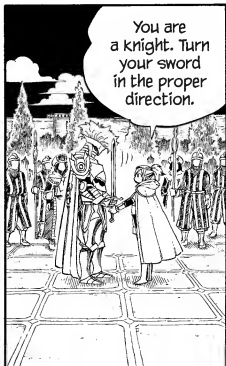
And the other
came back
to warn the
Princess of
the danger.

One is
Lucy.

She came
back to warn
her friends of
the coming
danger.



I am
going to
open the
door.



You are
a knight. Turn
your sword
in the proper
direction.



...I will
draw
my own
sword.

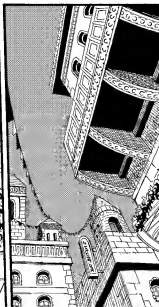
For
the sake of
my country
...

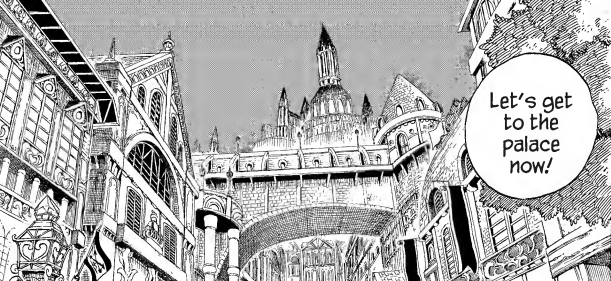


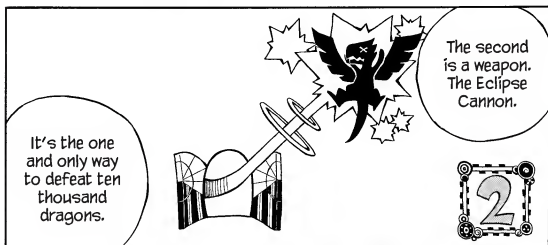
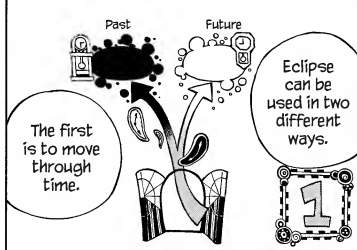
...I don't
know what
that one is
after!

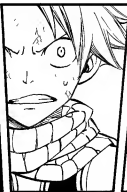


There's one
more person
from the
future...



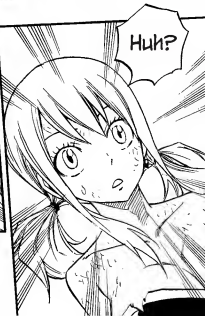


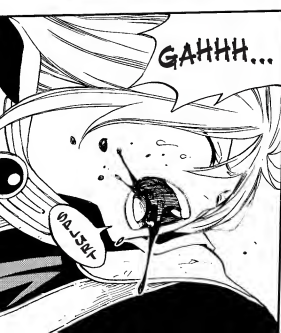
















It's weird...
you know...?
Watching...
myself...watch
me...die...



If you
died...I'd...
vanish...
any...way...

You are...
me...in the...
past...



Why
would you
protect
your
younger
self?!



...and now
I meet
them...
again...

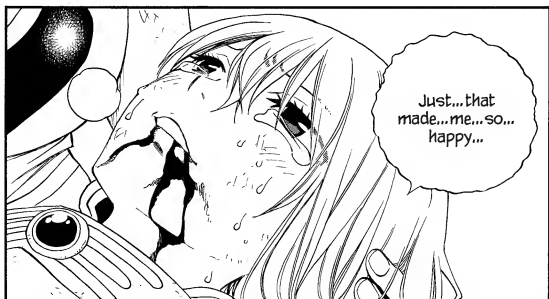
People
I never...
thought I'd
see...alive...



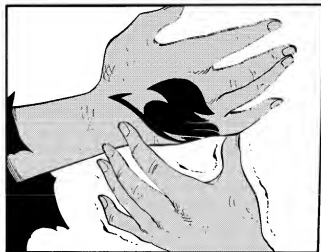
It's...
all...
right
...

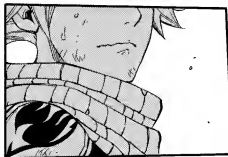


It's weird
for me too!
So *don't* die,
okay?!!



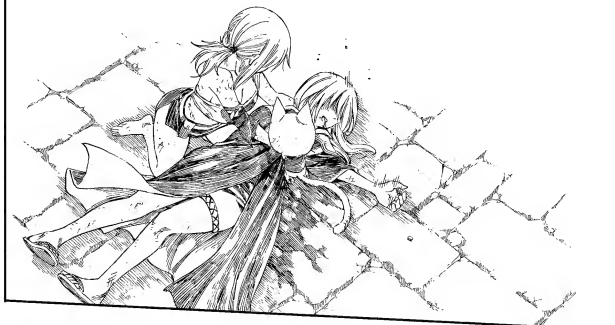
Just...that
made...me...so...
happy...





Protect...

...the...
future...



She doesn't
realize she
closed the
door...

?

o

o

But in a few
hours, you
will close the
door!

You
don't
think so
...now.

I would
never do
such a
thing!!!!
And still
you...

What
about
the damn
door?!!!!

The future
me already
said she
didn't close
it!!!!

And
I trust
myself!!!!

As long as
you are alive...

You are
fated to
close the
door!!!

I will not
close the
door!!!!

Here you go
with all that
talk... What
are you really
after?!!

Then I'll
burn that
destiny
up!!!!

Destiny
has
decided
everything
here
!!!!

There is
no truth
in your
words
!!!!



NOBODY
is going
to steal
Lucy's
future
from
her!!!!

*Protect
the
future...*

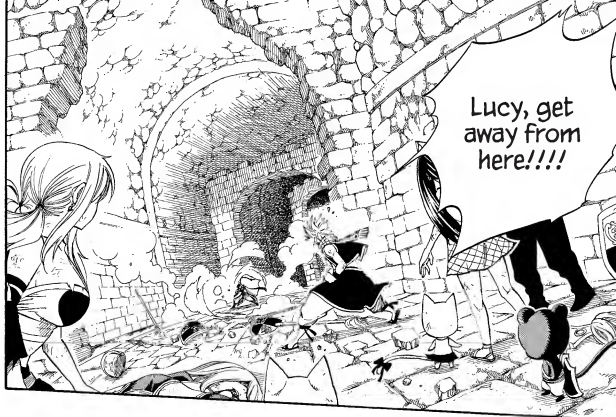
**I promise
you that
!!!!**

FAIRY TAIL

フェアリーテイル

Chapter 325: Solidarity!!!!





Lucy, get
away from
here!!!!



We're
going to
let Natsu
handle
things
here!



But
....!!!



You're
not
getting
away
!!!



R-Right
...

You're the
one he's
after!!!
You have to
run!!!







You stole
something
precious
from me right
before my
eyes!!!



**I don't
trust your
way!!!!**

**We're gonna
protect the
future our own
way!!!!**

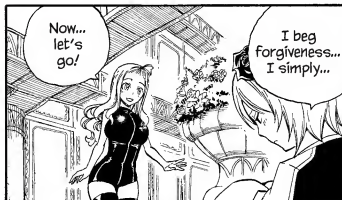
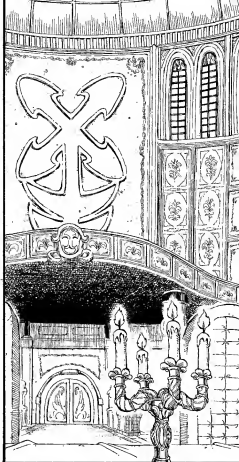


Where are you???

Yukino!!



Yukino !!



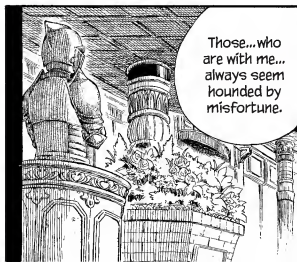
Now... let's go!

I beg forgiveness... I simply...



Yukino?! What are you doing in a place like this?!

Mirajane-sama...



Those...who are with me... always seem hounded by misfortune.



I will not go anywhere.







Huh? Loke isn't here anymore!

It looks like they're about to open it!

This is where we happen to come out?!

That's because nobody can use their magic near the door.



I'm afraid it would take on the order of years to recharge its magic.

I pray that we can wipe them all out with our first shot.



"And the Eclipse Cannon never fired at the ten thousand dragons."

"That person set the world on the path to destruction."



"There was one who stood in the way of the door opening."

"That person kept the door from opening."



Fairy Tail?

The situation has changed.

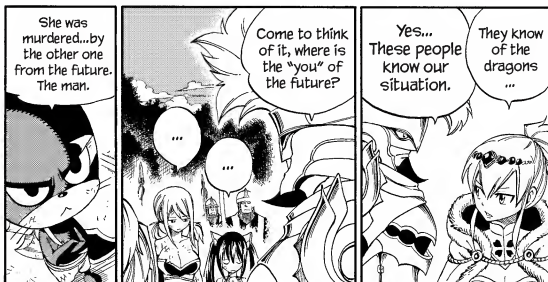


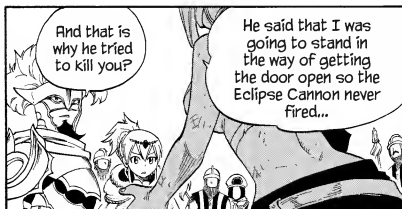
You and the minister together ...?

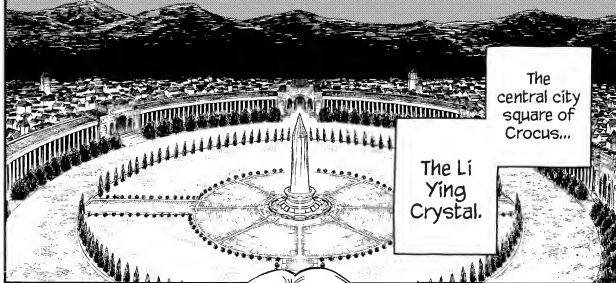
We never did anything wrong!!



There is no need to hide. Come out.

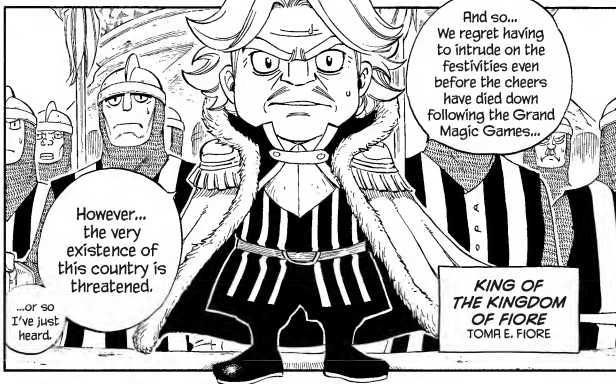






The
central city
square of
Crocus...

The Li
Ying
Crystal.



And so...
We regret having
to intrude on the
festivities even
before the cheers
have died down
following the Grand
Magic Games...

However...
the very
existence of
this country is
threatened.

...or so
I've just
heard.

**KING OF
THE KINGDOM
OF FIORE**
TOMA E. FIORE



We're
against ten
thousand...

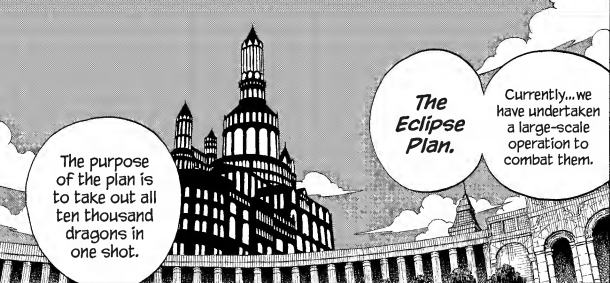
Even if it was
a special
case...

We couldn't
even face
one dragon,
Acnologia, and
now...



CHATTER
CHATTER

Ten
thousand
dragons?!



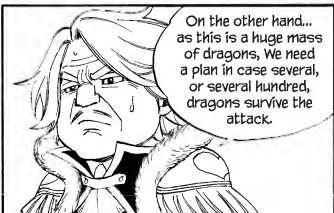
The purpose of the plan is to take out all ten thousand dragons in one shot.

The Eclipse Plan.

Currently...we have undertaken a large-scale operation to combat them.



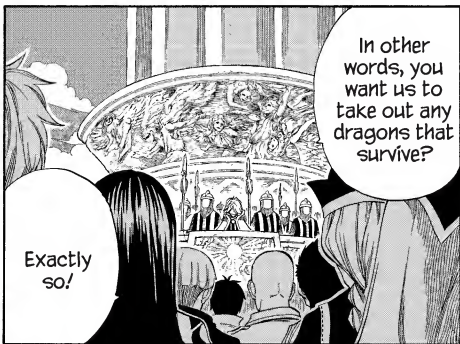
We ask all of you who belong to wizard guilds...to please aid us in our time of need.



On the other hand... as this is a huge mass of dragons, We need a plan in case several, or several hundred, dragons survive the attack.



I ask you to save our country!



In other words, you want us to take out any dragons that survive?

Exactly so!



Right!

We'd never
get our butts
kicked by
a bunch of
monsters!!!

This
country
has always
walked *with*
magic,
right?!!

Just leave
them to
us!!

Of course
we will!!!!

This is *our*
country
!!!!



Ohh...

Ohhh...



Right!!
Time for
a another
good dust-
up!!

They're fine!
I've heard a
report that they
recently joined
forces with the
princess!!

Our friends were
captured by the
Royal Forces...



Who
knows?

The
princess
?

You
can do
it, Sting-
kun!!

It looks
like it's
our turn.

Dragons!

Fro
thinks
so also!



Tsk!
If we
gotta, we
gotta.

We have
to be on
top of our
game.

Pegasus
versus
dragons. I
can almost
picture it!

A
wonderful
perfume!

All the
guilds
united
in one
mission!







I smell
evil all over
you!!



You...aren't
really here
to save the
future, are
you?!





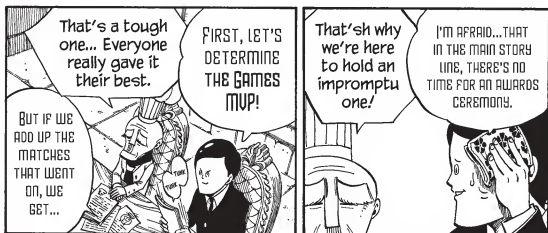
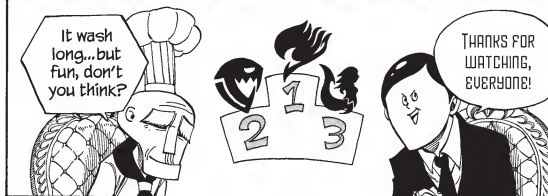
Afterword

Ever since I was a kid, I loved manga with battles! I'd try to imagine if this character fought that one, which one would win (so exciting!), and it's probably because I spent my youth steeped in those fantasies that I wound up drawing battle manga myself. But there are plenty of other manga doing tournaments and competition stories, huh? And then they'd have great plot twists! Yeah, battle manga is the ultimate path for manga!

But I'm a little twisted myself, so even if I'm doing a tournament, I try to make sure that battles aren't all there is to it. Sure, I thought of plot lines that are just about the battles... But if I just did that, then the chances for the main character, Natsu, to show his stuff get drastically reduced. So I do battle, break, battle, and behind it all, I have another story going on (the Eclipse plan), until it becomes a really complicated plot. In fact, it was so complicated, there were a lot of places where my original ideas started to be inconsistent with how they actually went. So much so that as things went on, there were so many adjustments and rewrites to keep things on track in this story arc that it was wearing me out! I'll bet you can still find all sorts of contradictions that are still in there (sweat)!

Now, in the Japanese release of Volume 39 there will again be a normal version and a special edition. In the special edition, there will be an anime DVD that includes a collaboration between Fairy Tail and my previous work, Rave. After so long, we get to see moving versions of Haru and Elie!

X791 GRAND MAGIC GAMES IMPROMPTU AWARDS CEREMONY



AND THE WORST
WOULD BE RAVEN'S
KUROHEBI VS.
TOBY FROM LAMIA
SCALE.



WE'D HAVE TO CALL
THE BEST BOUT AS
FAIRY TAIL'S NATSU
AND GAJEL VERSUS
SABER'S TWIN
DRAGONS.

Mm...
It was a
very good
match.

Let's
go!



COOLEST
CONTESTANT GOES
TO KAGURA OF
MERMAID HEEL!



THE SEXIEST
CONTESTANT GOES
TO JENNY OF BLUE
PEGASUS.



OLGA OF SABER
TOOTH HAS BEEN
CHOSEN FOR BEST
PERFORMANCE.

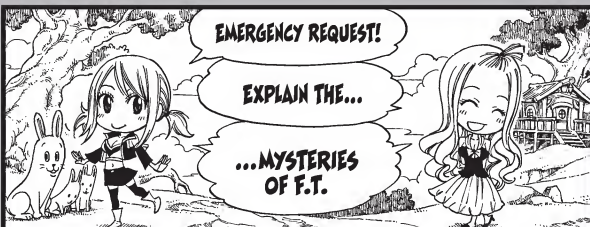
MOST TENACIOUS
GOES TO LUCY OF
FAIRY TAIL!

I hope
there *ish* a
next year!



EVERYONE, WE
HOPE TO SEE YOU
RIGHT BACK HERE
NEXT YEAR!

おしまい
THE END



At some open space somewhere...



: Hello!! ♡



: What that, all of a sudden?

Mira: It's "Hello all" shortened. Hello!! ♡

Lucy: That is *never* going to catch on!

Mira: Let's have the first question of this column!

In Pandemonium, Erza defeated 100 monsters, but wouldn't she have won with just 5?!



Lucy: We got a *lot* of this one!

Mira: It's a little on the "old" side, but since we got so many of them, we decided to pick it out and answer it.

Lucy: I'll bet nobody even remembers the rules to it.

Mira: There was an actual reason for her actions, from Erza's point of view. And it's a very Erza thing to do.

Lucy: Is that so?

Mira: Remember the order of players in the game.



: If I remember right, Erza was first, and the middle guys are a blur, and finally came Cana, I think.



Mira: That's it! That's the point. Sure, if she defeated 51 monsters, she'd win, but afterwards, the rest of the field would have to finish off the other 49.



: You're right! With everybody going in order and Cana last in line, it'd be very unlikely for Cana to come in second.



: She wouldn't have known that the next game would be "MPF," but she defeated all hundred monsters hoping to give Cana a better chance.

Lucy: That's Erza for you!

Mira: Next question!

I get the feeling there are too many brothers and sisters in this manga.



Continued on the left-hand page.

Continued from the left-hand page.

Lucy:

Mira:



: I'd say there's not much we can do about that.



: True... The longer you go on a manga, the more similar setups start to appear...

Lucy: Your relationship with Elfman was hidden at the very beginning, huh?

Mira: At least from the readers. But we were the first brother-sister combination in the concept.

Lucy: And it's pretty obvious that certain brother-sister relationships were added in after the fact...



: You're not supposed to say that.



Lucy: I'm a little jealous since it's only in the anime that I get anything close to a brother or sister.

Mira: Actually there are some sibling pairings that have been set up, but still haven't been revealed. But with readers saying, "there are too many brother-sister pairings," the author may flinch at revealing them now.

Lucy: You mean about Yukino?

Mira: I'm sure there are many people who are already aware of that one, but I'm talking about some that haven't been touched on yet.



: Whoo! Now you've got me curious!! Who are you talking about?!

Mira: It's a secret. It still may come out in the story, although we don't know for sure.

Lucy: Okay, last question.

How many volumes is FT going to go?

**The previous series, Rave, went 35 volumes.*



Mira: Recently this question has been coming up a lot!

Lucy: Yeah. Since it really seems like it's coming to a big climax, there are a lot of people who think this series is racing toward its final volume.

Mira: To tell the truth, there's been no decision on what volume it will end, but it's still got a long way to go. I'm pretty sure.



: If you collect the stories of this particular story arc, it started with a theme of "festival."

Mira: But the story has gone on a long time with so many characters!

Lucy: But if you're worried that it's almost over, you can relax.



: Please stay with us, okay?



Wow! We wrapped that up really nicely!! Sure, we started out with a weird "hello" at the beginning, but we pulled it all together in a pretty package!

Mira: "Weird hello?"

Lucy: You've forgotten already.

Mira: Of course I remember!
Moun-tain-f-i-o-n-pon!



: Nope. Not that.

Send to: Hiro Mashima, Kodansha Comics

451 Park Ave. South, 7th Floor New York, NY 10016

FAIRY TAIL

GUILD d'ART

The Fairy Tail Guild is looking for illustrations! Please send in your art on a postcard or at postcard size, and do it in black pen, okay? Those chosen to be published will get a signed mini poster! ♪ Make sure you write your real name and address on the back of your illustration!

They're always such a close family! I'm happy that people draw pictures like this!



Prefecture, Mayonaise



Ookayama Prefecture, Shiny



Nagasaki Prefecture, Tomoka Sasano



Yamaguchi Prefecture, Yuriko



Saitama Prefecture, Ryōta Tsuka



Saitama Prefecture, Ayaka Sato



Hyogo Prefecture, Choro



Fukuoka Prefecture, Akane Sugi

I'm so thankful to the fans who came up with these characters!

▲ Big brother Thunder is strong and cool, huh? We gotta give him more chances to shine.

▲ He says this is how Yajima-san looked when he was a working wizard! Is that true? (Laughs)

▲ Now this is adorable! I must say that Gray looks cute in a cat costume.

▲ On! Natsu together with the Twin Dragons! Very cool!

▲ The composition and layout are quite professional. Very well done!!

▲ Kamika-san. She doesn't stand out very much but she is very tall.

By sending in letters or postcards, you give us permission to give your name, address, postal code, and any other information you include to the artist as-is. Please keep that in mind.

RECEIVED



Shimane Prefecture, Mira



Mie Prefecture, Kairi



Ookayama Prefecture, King



Iwate Prefecture, Mamoru

Whoa! That's amazing! I'll do my best! I can't help but do my best now!



Kanagawa Prefecture, Koro Koro

One of the great things to have watched during the games was how Chapati coordinated his wigs!



Hyogo Prefecture, Yura Imai

▲ Her impish grin is incredibly cute!

▲ A great gathering of Celestial Spirits! Ah! Only the girls, huh?

▲ Is he male? Is she female? Pro has a lot of mysteries. But the most basic is: is this a cat or a frog?

▲ She's a ghost, but the first master shows up quite a lot. And she still has secrets.



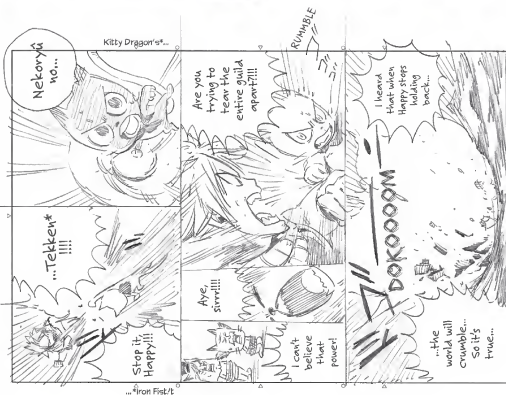
Hokkaido, Shiroo Ishikawa

▲ Wendy making a bunch of different faces. So well done!! And for some reason Plus is there too.

FAIRY TAIL

フェアリーテイル

38



Twitter account: @hiro_mashima

真島ヒロ



FROM HIRO MASHIMA



Recently, I've been trying out a lot of paint programs, but there still isn't any that I'd hold up and say, "This is my ideal paint program!!" While trying to color a drawing, I'm always frustrated that it doesn't have this feature or that feature. The drawing on the cover of this book has three types of coloring, all of them different.

Original Jacket Design: Hisao Ogawa

Translation Notes:

Japanese is a tricky language for most Westerners, and translation is often more art than science. For your edification and reading pleasure, here are notes on some of the places where we could have gone in a different direction with our translation of the work, or where a Japanese cultural reference is used.

Page 15, Waxwing

A waxwing is a small perching bird, varieties of which can be found in Japan, Asia, Europe, and North America. The Japanese variety is called *renjaku* by the Japanese.



Page 55, Mizuchi

Lyons' attack, Mizuchi, refers to a dragon out of Japanese legends. The early legends regarding Mizuchi have been lost, so it is not known whether it originally referred to a single dragon or all dragons with a close relationship with water, however existing early legends connect them to rivers or the sea.

Page 71, Scree

Scree is the English word for Jura's *gaisui* attack. It refers to the pile of rocky debris that accumulates at the base of cliffs and other steep slopes. It is also known as a talus.



Page 83, Nakagami Armor

Nakagami, also known as Tenichijin or Tenitsujin, is one of the Twelve Generals of Heaven as described by the famous *onmyōji* (astrologer and mystic) Abe no Seimei during the Heian period a thousand years ago. The Twelve Generals refer to constellations, and among the twelve used in Abe no Seimei's astrology, Nakagami was the chief of the twelve god generals.



Page 86, Narumikazuchi

Although the normal word for thunder and lighting in Japanese is *kaminari*, there is another word, *ikazuchi*, which connotes to Japanese speakers lightning directed by a god. Indeed there is a god's name, Takemikazuchi, which uses the term *mikazuchi*, although this translator was not able to find any reference to a specific god named Narumikazuchi. *Naru* means a roar as in a lion's, and *mikazuchi* means thunder and lightning, so the translation is correct. Unfortunately, the English was not able to carry the nuance of god-directed lightning that is in the Japanese.

Page 101, Nakagami Asterism

As mentioned above, Nakagami was taken from the astrology of Abe no Seimei, and those relate to constellations in the night sky. However, technically some 'constellations' such as the Big Dipper are not actual official constellations, but pictures that the stars make in the sky. (The stars of the big dipper are only a part of the Ursa Major constellation.) There is a word for the pictures the stars make in the sky, such as the big dipper or the teapot of Sagittarius: They are called 'asterisms.' The Japanese name for the attack, *selsai*, means 'asterism.'



Page 125, There and Back Again

The Japanese words used in the title of this chapter are the same words that are found in the official Japanese title for the book, *The Hobbit*.

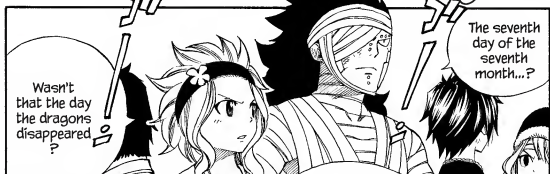
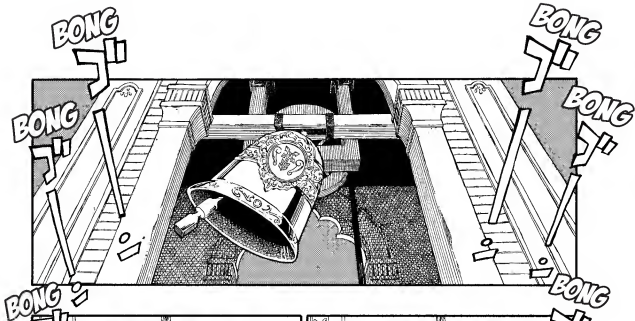
Chapter 323: The Shadow: There and Back Again

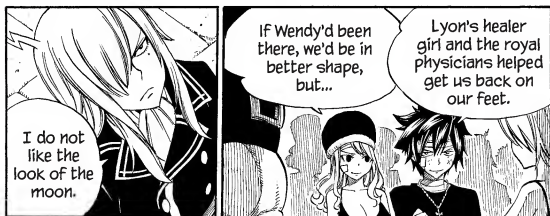


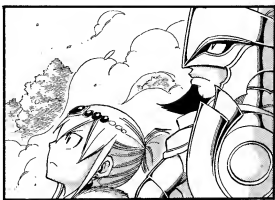
Preview of *Fairy Tail*, volume 39

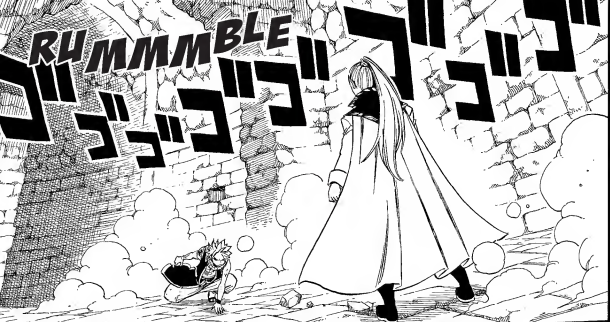
We're pleased to present you with a preview from *Fairy Tail*, volume 39, now available on digital devices and coming to print in June 2014. See our Web site (www.kodanshacomics.com) for more details!

















Fairy Tail volume 38 is a work of fiction. Names, characters, places, and incidents are the products of the author's imagination or are used fictitiously. Any resemblance to actual events, locales, or persons, living or dead, is entirely coincidental.

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Lettering: AndWorld Design
Editing: Ben Applegate

TOMARE!



You're going the wrong way!

Manga is a completely different
type of reading experience.

To start at the *beginning*,
go to the *end*!

That's right! Authentic manga is read the traditional Japanese way—from right to left, exactly the *opposite* of how American books are read. It's easy to follow: Just go to the other end of the book and read each page—and each panel—from right side to left side, starting at the top right. Now you're experiencing manga as it was meant to be!